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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DRAFT

Statewide Multi-Payer Data Initiative

Friday, March 16, 2012

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Rob Aseltine, Jeannette DeJesús, Laurie Graham, Jim Iacobellis, Kim Martone, Bobbi Schmidt,

Members Attending: by Phone: Mary Ellen Breault, Rod Bremby, Vicki Veltri

Members Absent: Ben Barnes, Christine Capiello, Tia Cintron, Deb Heinrich, Kevin Lembo, Thomas Leonardi, Jewel Mullen, Mark Schaefer, Bob Tessier, Tom Woodruff,

Welcome and Introduction

Jeannette DeJesús called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. by welcoming all attendees and asked the members of the work group to introduce themselves. She noted that there were multiple members of the public in attendance. The minutes of the last meeting were distributed and they will be e-mailed to the members later in the day. She apologized for not getting them out sooner, but there was a problem with recording, so they will be voted on at the next meeting on April 5.

Update on Proposed Legislation (Governor's Bill No. 5038)

Ms. DeJesús stated that HB 5038 is in the Public Health Committee right now. The committee held a hearing on the bill on March 7. Ms. DeJesús expressed hope that the committee would vote to pass the bill within the next two weeks.

Multiple people provided testimony, which was overwhelmingly in favor of the establishment of the APCD. Some of the questions were about very specific things, for example: security of the data, privacy of the individual, social security numbers. Ms. DeJesús indicated that this work group would make decisions regarding social security numbers and other issues at future meetings, after the legislation is passed. The main questions focused on how the data was going to be used and who

was going to use it. Group members are in the process now to meeting with partners in order to achieve consensus on these issues.

OHRI has put together a fact sheet on this legislation. If there are any questions or concerns regarding this, please contact Laurie Graham.

Update on Funding

Ms. DeJesús turned the meeting over to Bobbi Schmidt for an update on funding. The Exchange has decided to move forward with a second level 1 grant, and subsequently a level 2 grant, which will fund it from August 2012 until December 2013. OHRI will give the Exchange a budget for the APCD which will be submitted this month or next month and will cover the period from May through August of this year, as well as a second budget for implementation from August 2012 through the end of 2013.

Update on Hiring Consultants to Support APCD

OHRI will be hiring Sue Hoben as a consultant. Ms. Hoben is a member of this work group and has been providing volunteer assistance up to this point. In addition, OHRI will retain the Freedman Group, located outside of Boston, which has experience in developing an APCD.

Discussion of Report to Legislature on Plan for APCD

Ms. DeJesús stated that this work group is required under the statute to submit to the legislature a plan for the development of a multi-payer data initiative. OHRI staff members have compiled a draft report and have circulated it to work group members. Input from work group members is greatly appreciated.

The initial section of the report is a strategic mission statement. The following section discusses the development of the APCD in the context of the federal and state reform efforts. The report then talks about the establishment of this work group, and what this group has accomplished to date.

Kim Martone suggested that the report discuss the databases currently available in Connecticut and utilize existing resources which would be applicable to the APCD. Ms. Graham and Ms. Schmidt agreed, and asked members to submit information on existing databases to OHRI.

Ms. Graham continued in summarizing the report. The next section is about the functionality, purpose, and benefit of the APCD. Several other states, including Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, and Colorado, have – or are in the process of implementing - APCDs. Some of these were created in response to the ACA, and some predated the current reforms. The APCD will promote health, improve access, and reduce costs – the goals of OHRI. APCD is empowering the public through healthcare cost transparency. There is a high level overview of the accomplishments of this office in reaching out to other states and understanding the work of their APCDs. OHRI is currently reaching out to stakeholders in the community to discuss the future anticipated need of the APCD.

The last section is an appendix of our documentation, including PA 11-58 and a list of key stakeholders in our community as well as a contact list for other states that have APCDs. The rest of the report is a summary of minutes and other documentation.

There was a suggestion that the size of charts in the report should be enlarged, and Ms. Graham and Ms. Schmidt agreed to make those changes. Ms. DeJesús emphasized that this report is still in draft form.

Jim Iacobellis suggested that the work group wait until the Public Health Committee passes the bill, and then finalize the report based on that. Ms. DeJesús agreed with that suggestion.

Ms. DeJesús mentioned that OHRI staff members had drafted a fact sheet on the APCD bill, and asked members of the work group to comment on it.

Public Comment

There was a comment from a member of the public regarding research conducted on other state APCDs.